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The Octofoil, November/December 1983

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

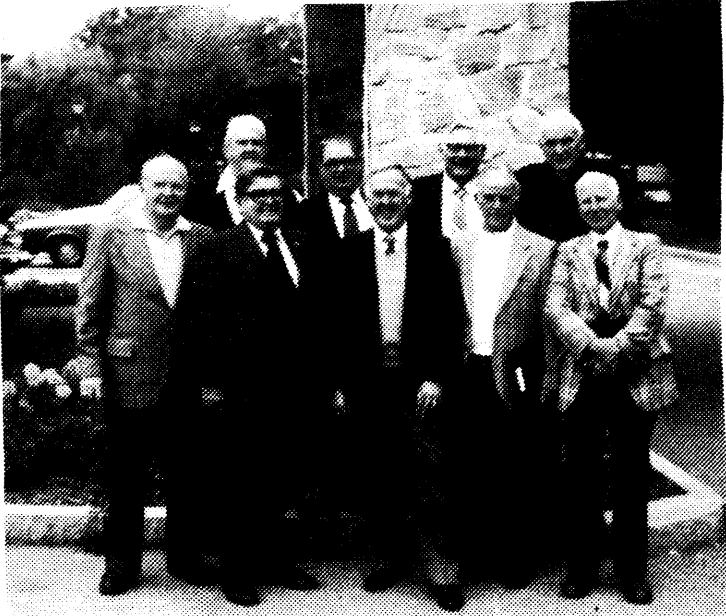
THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$5.00 per year - \$1.50 will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XXXVIII Number 5

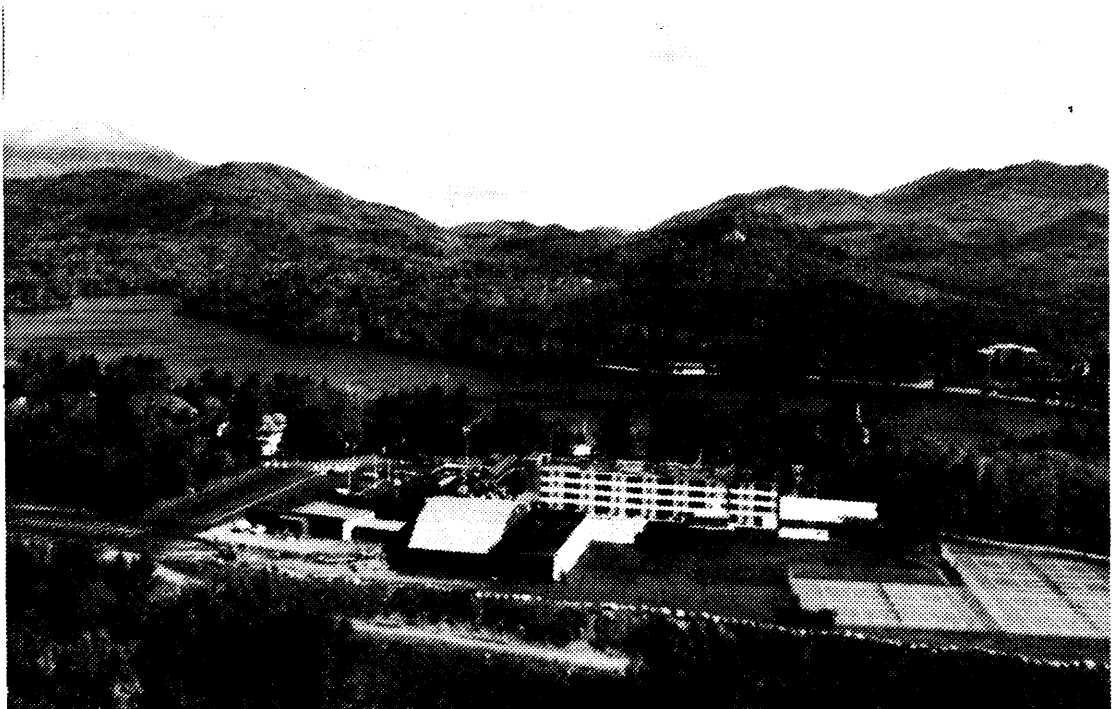
Nov-Dec 1983

39th Annual Memorial Mass and Service



Father Connors and his "helpers" are shown at the Lincoln-Sheraton Motor Inn at Worcester as they prepared the area for the arrival of the "troops" for the 39th Annual Mass and Service. Back row: Ed McGrath, Fred D'Amore, Gil Pernokas and "himself" Father Connors. Front row: John Edmonds, Tom Boyle, Herb Olsen, Fran Maher and Ron Murphy.

Lake Placid, New York Site for 1984 Reunion



The Holiday Inn at Lake Placid will be Headquarters for the 39th annual reunion. Reservation forms for room accommodations and events for the three day package rates will be mailed to the members by the Lake Placid Convention Bureau.

Dear Dan:

We were happy that you could be with the troops in Worcester for our 39th Annual Mass and Service - and seem to be recovered from your surgery. This year many of the troops arrived on Friday- and Franny Maher and I were at the Sheraton Lincoln Inn to greet them - in our hospitality room. Again Franny Maher did a fine job in arranging rooms for the 9th Division people - we filled the 140 rooms at the Inn - and Franny reserved about 36 rooms at the Days Lodge - and a few rooms at the Yankee Budget.

As you know Tom Boyle arranged to have a buffet supper at the Inn on Saturday evening - I told Tom that I doubted if we would have a hundred - and Tom insisted that at least 200 would write in reservations for the supper- and we had 240. After the supper we had music, dancing- and much conversation- and the hospitality remained open. I was with the troops until 11:30 p.m.- and I was glad to get back to my pad - I had foot surgery a few months ago- and thus far I have been unable to beat out the infield hits.

On Sunday as usual the troops gathered at the Fire Station- 9:30 a.m.- and marched to the Church- a distance of a few hundred yards. The Mass at 10 a.m.- before the Mass the Worcester Police Department Color Guard placed the colors- very impressive. The Church was filled to overflowing. After the Mass our Memorial Service at our outdoor Memorial.

Besides our own participants- Rev. Alston Speer, George Apar, Fr. Curtis, Fr. Rowan, our President. Tom Boyle- we had the Mayor, Sara Robertson, City Manager, Francis J. McGrath. The wreath was laid by Herb Olsen and Vincent Guglielmo- both had brothers who were killed in combat-

Franny Maher and yourself were also participants.

Then off to the Sheraton Lincoln Inn- for our luncheon- I invited two 9th Division Veterans of the Vietnam conflict- Sgt. James Rowe and Stan Witkowski- They were at the head table with their wives. Stan Witkowski said that he had participated in no army functions since he took off his uniform- and he thanked me for "getting him out of the closet." 506 attended the luncheon- of this number about 460 were 9th Division people- Speakers at the luncheon were Judge Melquist, Mayor Sara Robertson, City Manager Francis McGrath- Tom Boyle, Father Curtis, Father Rowan, yourself (a big hit as usual) - Franny Maher- prayer by Rev. Ralston Speer. The parish choir entertained us with selections- no rock and roll- and we finished with the Irish Blessing- "And May God Keep You and Marie in the Palm of His Hand."

And I was thrilled that so many attended our 39th Annual Pilgrimage- as we honor and pray for our gallant comrades who made the supreme sacrifice. And now the 40th- November 11, 1984.

And I am grateful to my helpers, Franny Maher, Tom Boyle, Fred D'Amore, Herb Olsen, John Edmonds, Ron Murphy, Ed McGrath, and Gil Pernokas.

Every Grace and God Bless.

Father Connors
87-5 Park Avenue
Worcester, Massachusetts 01605



The Editors of the Octofoil wish to thank all those who sent the beautiful Christmas Cards and best wishes for the New Year. We would like to wish all the members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lake Placid, New York was selected as the site for 1984 reunion by the Board of Governors of the association. This is in keeping with the policy established years ago whereby the National Association would operate the reunion every other year and the Chapters would hold the reunion the following year. The National Association would then select a site in a resort area or place where a chapter did not exist. This years reunion will give the members a chance to visit the site of the 1980 winter Olympics. A beautiful country setting away from the large cities, Lake Placid has much to offer. June 21, 22, 23, 1984 are the dates so make plans to be with the "old gang" for three days that will be long remembered.

MOST SCENIC HIGHWAY

The drive to Lake Placid is as beautiful as the destination. Voted "America's Most Scenic Highway" in 1966, the New York State Northway stretches from Albany to the Canadian Border through the untouched, natural beauty of the Adirondack Park. The uninterrupted vistas of Route 73, the final roadway into Lake Placid, unveil a panorama of the majestic High Peaks just before the highway curls around the base of the Olympic Ski Jump Towers, Lake Placid's greatest landmarks. You have arrived!

RESORT WITH A HISTORY

Lake Placid is a resort with a history that focuses on the Lake Placid Club Resort. The "Club," founded by Dr. Melvil Dewey in 1895, lured the attention of a number of significant people into the area. Groundwork was set for the development of winter sports facilities and events in areas such as speed skating, ski jumping, bobsled, figure skating and harness racing. This pioneer effort ultimately resulted in the hosting of the 1932 Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid which captured international attention.

YEAR ROUND APPEAL

Still alive is the excitement in Lake Placid. Preparation for the 1980 Olympic Winter Games resulted in the construction of ultra-modern facilities, now very unique attractions to visitors, as well as the sites of countless national and international sporting events. Completing the year-round appeal

in the area are the lakes, streams, mountains and all the accompanying attractions which focus on them.

Group rates will be made available to the 9th Infantry Division for many or all of the following attractions:

OLYMPIC VENUES

WHITEFACE MEMORIAL HIGHWAY - Eight mile highway built as a memorial to WWI Veterans; panoramic view stretching to Vermont.

WHITEFACE MT. AERIAL CHAIRLIFT - Chilling ride on 2-person lift to the summit of Whiteface Mountain.

OLYMPIC ICE ARENA - Four ice surfaces enclosed in arena; spectators view training figure skaters, hockey, curling, concerts; cafeteria, box office, executive offices of Olympic Regional Development Authority.

MT. VAN HOEVENBERG - Olympic truck tour of Bobsled and Luge tracks. Olympic Bobsled is a mile long, concrete run which tourists may walk, particularly fascinating through famous Zig-Zag curve. Luge track is 1000 meters long in serpent-like shape. Both are refrigerated and iced in winter.

Cross Country and Biathlon area has miles of trails which may be walked or hiked in summer season, picnic tables available for lunching.

INTERVALE SKI JUMP COMPLEX - SUMMER SKI JUMPING on newly installed, plastic matting, allows athletes to jump the 70 meter tower, lan-

GOLFING

There are 81 holes of golf to be played in the Lake Placid area, all framed within the beautiful vistas of the Adirondack Mountains. In Lake Placid:

THE WHITEFACE RESORT - Challenging, tree lined course (18 holes).

CRAIG WOOD GOLF COURSE - Named after native son, with magnificent view of the Adirondacks (18 holes).

LAKE PLACID CLUB RESORT - Three courses, attached to sprawling resort grounds (Two 18 hole courses, one 9 hole course).

MINIATURE GOLF - Located in the village is an 18 hole, miniature course, open until midnight during summer season.

SPECIAL INTEREST
THE UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE TRAINING CENTER - Located in the heart of the village, training facility and residence for United States Olympic athletes.
ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

CENTER FOR MUSIC, DRAMA AND ART - Modern theatre seating 350 people, which hosts a number of dramatic performances, dances, musical concerts and recitals. Also houses a Fine Arts Gallery and Library, very unique to the North Country.

MOVIE THEATRES - There are three screens! Tourists are almost always assured a new feature, with two showings nightly.

RESTAURANTS - There are over 50 restaurants in the Lake Placid area which is known for its outstanding dining. A number of International menus are available in addition to fine, American dining.

NIGHTCLUBS - There are several nightclubs located right in the village of Lake Placid, most offering nightly entertainment and dancing.

THE OCTOFOIL

THE OCTOFOIL

Form 2579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
Octofoil Associated Editors
Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn

National Officers

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Thomas Boyle
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Mass 02144

Vincent Guglielmino, 1st VP
114 Charles Street
Floral Park, N.Y. 110001

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5 Brentwood Dr.
Morris Plains, N.J. 07950

Ronald Murphy, 3rd V.P.
44 Strawberry Lane
Scituate, Ma. 02066

Harrison Daysh
Judge Advocate
4303 Carriage Ct.
Kinsington, Md. 20795

Fred D'Amore, Treasurer
95 Webster St.
E. Boston, Ma. 02128

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Board of Governors

1984
Walter O'Keeffe
Ridgewood, N.Y.

Herbert Olsen
Randolph, Ma.
Warren Boulden
Elkton, Md.

Roger Alsgaard
Saginaw, Mich.
Art MacDougall
Philadelphia, Pa.

1985
Thomas Boyle
Somerville, Ma.

Henry Santos
Tampa, Fla.
Dave Heller
Highland Park, Ill.

Al Perna
Philadelphia, Pa.
1986
Larry Ghere
Chicago, Ill.

Robert Pappas
New Port Richey, Fl.
Ralph Carci
Cheverly Manor, Md.

Elmer Wagner
Bay City, Mich.
Harry Wax
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Ret)

Honorary Members Emeritus

Rev. Edward Connors

Board Member Emeritus

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$5.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$5.00 earmarked for the issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N.J. of any change in address.

Published five times yearly, May, June, July, — Aug., Sept., Oct., — Nov., Dec., Jan-Feb., Mar.-April by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association reads: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

Copy must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th.

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N.J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967.

Volume XXXVIII Number 5

Nov-Dec 1983

Publication No. 402820



THE MEMORIAL FUND OF THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference. Applicants who are not children of former members of the division will not be considered unless no child of a former member qualifies.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarships:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school, he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
9. All applications must be sent to: John L. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, Rt. 4 Box 50A Crystal River, FL 32629.

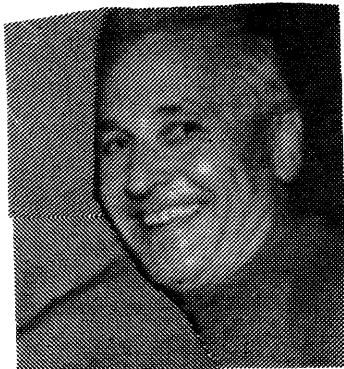
TAPS SOUNDED

*There is no Death!
What seems so is transition
This life of Mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life
elysian
Whose portal we call death.*

*With profound regret and
remorse we announce the
passing of these "Old
Reliables":*

Val De Maria
Hq Co. 47th Inf.
Fred Josey
Co G, 60th Inf.
Theodore Koller
Co H, 60th Inf.
Harold Siegle
A.T. 47th Inf.
Francis L. Picard
D Co. 47th Inf.
Dr. Aurelius C. Hagood
47th Med Det
James A. Panzone
F Co. 60th Inf.
Leo Kramer
60th Inf. 1st
Bn Hq Co.

*May they rest in peace. To
their loved ones we extend
our deepest sympathy.*



Fred Josey

I regret to inform you of the death of another beloved and devoted comrade. Our past National President Fred Josey passed on to his eternal reward November 13, 1983. He died after a brief, but serious illness.

Fred was always proud of having served with the 60th infantry. After joining the Association, he became very active in its affairs. He served as President of both National and the Michigan chapter. He also, served on the Board of Governors and in many other capacities.

We know that his countless friends will be grieved by this report.

To his lovely wife Jane, sons Rick and Randy, we offer our heartfelt condolences.

Sincerely,
Bob De Sandy

47th A.T. Co.
DANIEL B. ADAMS
2060 Midland Rd.
Southern Pines, N.C. 28387

News of the sudden death of Harold Siegle, long time company clerk of AT Co. 47th reached me last week. My successor as company commander, Edel Clark, phoned me the sad news. We had enjoyed the company of Harold and his wife, Ann, at the 1982 reunion at Ft. Bragg. The Siegle address is 103 Mt. Savage Dr., Ashland, Ky. 41101. 47th Inf. 1st. Bn Med Det C. B. BAKER

Another of our friends from the 9th Division Association passed away recently. Dr. A. C. Hagood, who was the 47th's Regimental Dentist from Ft. Bragg through Sicily, died in Johnson City Medical Center Hospital after a bout with cancer. I am certain that you remember him, and I feel that his friends will want to know of his passing. His wife may be reached at 1309 Sherwood Drive, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601.

TO "B" (47th.) OR NOT TO
"B".
like in "Wouldn't it be nice"
W.I.B.N.

In this printing Christmas 1983 is now past-like always there isn't a happier festive period of the year — between the happy, memorable hours come flashes of years gone by — of family and friends — of places and happening, joyful and sad.

We also re-call those 4½ years in our lives spent in the service of our 9th. Division which left us with everlasting memories — it was during these years that we developed strong, close friendships which we still enjoy today. — Tho our "Beco Family" can't be together at Christmas perhaps this belated greeting card verse best expresses our wish — each to the other.

Never has there been such a quest for Truth, such a yearning for Peace, such a longing for Love:

Never such a striving to understand and to be understood. Never has there been such a need for the Spirit that is Christmas. (Paul Conrad)

Now we may be dating ourselves if we still entertain the belief in New Year Resolutions but many of us share thoughts, opinions and hopes on what is or isn't happening around us — nationally and otherwise! —

— so W.I.B.N. If "greed" was non-existent and "peace" wasn't just another five-letter word!

— W.I.B.N. if the excessive energies exerted toward hostilities could be harnessed positively and lent toward equitable and peaceful ends to world problems.

— W.I.B.N. if "government approved" non-productiveness were rewarded with non-money!

— W.I.B.N. if "entertainment" of our military was done state-side by returning them home from Lebanon, Honduras, South Korea and elsewhere.

— W.I.B.N. if decisions and actions of our world leaders came under the scrutiny of "Inspector 12"!

— W.I.B.N. if national leaders were doing as well here at home as it persists "others" should be doing- politically, militarily, monetarily and spiritually - not necessarily in that order.

and in closing W.I.B.N. IF "ol'Beco" had it's best-ever showing at the up-coming Lake Placid "Re-union" — so "BE THERE"!

—Heh.— you'll be careful out there!! O.K.?

Pat J. Morano
2208 Lincoln Way,
East

Chambersburg, Pa.
17201

Arthur J. Stenzel
8705 Village Mill
Row.

Bayonet Point, Fl.
33567
9 (Beacon Woods)

"I know I serve well balanced meals," said the housewife. "One day my husband complains and the next day the kids complain."

LADIES' AUXILIARY of the

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

I would like to become a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Enclosed is check or money order for 2.00 for 1984 dues. Please mail my membership card to:

Name

Street

City

State

While attached to the 9th Infantry Division (state relationship, whether the Ninth Division man was a husband, father, brother, son, etc.)

was with

give company, regiment, battery, attached unit, etc.)

Make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association. Mail to

Mrs. Lillian Krasovetz
107 USA East
Gibbsboro, N.J. 08026

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn.
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name Serial No.

Street Address

City Zone State

I was a member of:

Battery; Company; Regiment; 9th Div

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member, per year \$5.00 ☐

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund ☐

THREE-YEAR MEMBER \$13.00 ☐

Life Membership \$50.00 ☐

Ladies' Auxiliary Member \$ 2.00 ☐

Decals \$.50 ☐

60th Infantry History \$ 2.00 ☐

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-DelawareValley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Ohio ☐ Fayetteville ☐

Florida ☐ Fort Bragg, N.C. ☐

The 147th Meeting National Board of Governors

The 147th meeting of the National Board of Governors took place at 3:10 p.m. in the Sheraton-Lincoln Motel in Worcester, Massachusetts, attended by: Thomas Boyle, Herb Olsen, David Heller, Roger Alsgaard, Warren Boulden, Elmer Wagner, Art MacDougall, Ralph Carci, Larry Ghre, Robert Pappas, Henry Santos, Al Perna and Walter O'Keefe. Also in attendance: Judge Advocate Harrison Daysh, 1st V.P. Vincent Guglielmino, 2nd V.P. Emil Langer, 3rd V.P. Ronald Murphy, Treasurer Fred D'Amore, Past Presidents Bill Bongiorno, Fran Maher and former Board Members, Ed Wisniewski, Marty Krasovetz, and members Norman Caswell and Boardman Lockwood.

President of the Association Thomas Boyle asked the members to please rise and recite with him the pledge of Allegiance and to remain standing for a moment of silent prayer in memory of the departed men of the Ninth.

The secretary read the minutes of the 146th meeting held in Michigan and upon a motion duly made by Elmer Wagner and seconded by Bob Pappas it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

The treasurer, Fred D'Amore gave his report of the income and spendings of the first quarter and upon a motion duly made by Ralph Carci and seconded by Henry Santos it was voted to: Accept the report of the treasurer.

Roger Alsgaard was called upon for the final report of the 1983 reunion and then turn over a check to the secretary for a profit of \$2879.59.

Upon a motion made by Robert Pappas and seconded by Ralph Carci it was voted to: Accept the report of the Michigan 1983 reunion.

Herb Olsen reported on the 1984 reunion that will be held in Lake Placid, N.Y. on June 21, 22, 23, 1984. This reunion will be a "first" for the association where as a package deal for rooms and meals will be used.

Upon a motion duly made by Dave Heller and seconded by Elmer Wagner it was voted to: Accept the package deal presented by the Reunion Committee for Lake Placid. There was one negative vote cast.

Henry Santos reported on the 1985 reunion to be held in Florida by the local chapter and requested that they be allowed to change the tentative dates from September to April or May, 1985. President Boyle suggested that this request be left up to the Florida Chapter that is conducting the reunion.

Dave Heller reported the Memorial Marker that was suggested to be placed in the National Cemetery by the association had been rejected by the National Monument Committee as markers are no longer allowed to be erected in the Cemetery. The Monument Committee suggested that a Marker could be placed on the Drive leading into the Cemetery. Upon a motion duly made by Dave Heller and seconded by Warren Boulden it was voted to: Have Dave Heller explore the avenue of placing a Marker on this driveway to the Cemetery.

Boardman Lockwood reported on the trip that was taken by 24 members of the association to North Africa. Details will appear in the November-December issue of the Octofoil. Lockwood also

reported that he had explored the sites for future reunions as he is chairman of this committee (this would be for the year 1986).

Upon a motion made by Walter O'Keefe and seconded by Robert Pappas it was voted to: Grant the Michigan Chapter the usual sum of \$100.00 for a job well done at the 1983 reunion.

Members of the Florida Chapter Robert Pappas and Henry Santos reported on the mini reunion held by their Chapter in October. The attendance at this affair had risen from 48 members (and their wives) at last year gathering to 71 people for this years mini reunion.

Upon a motion made by Walter O'Keefe and seconded by Al Perna it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary

New York Chapter Christmas Party

On December 11, 1983 the New York Chapter held its Annual Christmas Party at the 69th Regiment Armory, East 26th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City. Festivities began about 1:00 P.M. and ended about 7:00 P.M. From all reports this was the biggest Christmas Party ever. According to Sgt.-at-Arms Alfred Orletti we had over 150 members and guests present. There was a hot and cold buffet supper, coffee and cake, snacks and "liquid" refreshments. There was music for dancing. Everything was "on the House". Despite the huge amount of food available, it somehow seemed to disappear, making it quite evident that everyone had a good time.

Members and guests brought wrapped Christmas presents and placed them under the Christmas tree. Something like 30 gifts were raffled off. We collected \$225.00 on the special raffle. This money was donated to the Blessed Sacrament Church on Long Island, to be used toward the Father De-Laura Bell Fund. Another \$45.00 was received in donations.

In conjunction with the Christmas Party we held our annual 50-50 Club Raffle. This was our biggest raffle ever. The net profit from this raffle helps us to meet our operating expenses for the year. Besides good receipts from the mail, we also did well in raffle tickets sold and received at the party. Some of the winners of cash prizes were Joseph A. Scardilli, Howard Waldman (who donated his prize to an Appalachian Mountain Charity in memory of an Army buddy), Jerome Shapiro, Vincent Guglielmino, Louis Almassy, and Pierina Agnetti. Some 10 consolation prizes were also given out.

Charles Wider and yours truly were kept busy at the entrance collecting dues, selling raffle tickets and receiving donations. The ladies who sold raffle tickets for the Father De-Laura Bell Fund deserve a special round of applause. Sorry I did not get their names. Also seen working at the party were Vincent Guglielmino and Francis Smiles, behind the bar, Frank Fazio, who planned the party, Alfred Orletti on clean-up detail, John Parisi on clean-up detail, and coffee and cake detail; as per usual I neglected to get the names of all the workers, and I am sorry about that. President Walter O'Keefe voiced the correct sentiments when he thanked everyone who helped to make the Christmas

Party and the 50-50 Raffle the huge success that they were. Adolph Wadalavage donated snacks for the party.

I might mention here that Mr. Claude Sarfati and his wife were present as guests of the New York Chapter. He was awed by the camaraderie displayed by the members. Mr. Sarfati owns the Cafe du Soir Restaurant at 322 East 86th Street, New York, and he had invited a group of members who made the North African invasion to his restaurant for a luncheon on November 8, 1983. In 1944 we had liberated his home town in Algiers, Africa. He has invited us for another luncheon on November 8, 1984.

Elects Officers for 1984

On December 2, 1983 the New York Chapter elected the following officers to serve during 1984: Adolph Wadalavage, President; Harry Wax, 1st Vice President; Emil Langer, 2nd Vice President; Arthur R. Schmidt, Secretary; Irving Feinberg, Treasurer; George Apar, Chaplain; Alfred Orletti, Sgt.-at-Arms; the following were elected to the Chapter Board of Governors: John Parisi, Representing the 39th Infantry Regiment; William Klauz, Representing the 47th Infantry Regiment; Charles Libretto, Representing the 60th Infantry Regiment; Calvin A. Polivy, Representing the Division Artillery; and Arthur R. Schmidt, Representing the Special Troops. On January 6, 1984 we will have installation of officers at the 69th Regiment Armory, East 26th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City at 8:30 P.M.

Luncheon at Cafe du Soir

On November 8, 1983 chapter members were guests of Mr. Claude Sarfati, owner of the Cafe du Soir Restaurant, at 322 East 86th Street, New York City. The occasion was in honor of those men who participated in the invasion of North Africa on November 8, 1942. Mr. Sarfati was only a young man at the time of the invasions, but he wanted to show his appreciation of the men of the 39th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, who liberated his hometown in Algeria, North Africa. We were invited to a luncheon at his restaurant. This is not to mention the unending supply of alcoholic beverages which Mr. Sarfati kept giving us during the course of the luncheon and while we discussed our experiences. Claude Sarfati had a few stories of his own to tell. What was even more appreciated was the sincere friendship that Claude showed toward each of us in speaking to us; and, as each of us left, he would shake our hand profusely and ask us to come again next year.

Some of those present were Gene Magidson, who was the intermediary between Mr. Sarfati and the New York Chapter; Louis Almassy, Emil Langer, Wilbra Leclair, Charles Libretto, Joe Medea, Walter O'Keefe, John Parisi and his daughter, Arthur R. Schmidt, Frances Smiles, Adolph Wadalavage, and Herman J. Wullert, a new member recruited at the luncheon. I have probably left some names out. All I can say is that I will try to make better notes, next time.

To reciprocate in a small way the New York Chapter invited Mr. Sarfati and his wife to our Christmas Party. He attended and said he never saw anything like it.

Submitted by:
Arthur R. Schmidt, Sec'y.
New York Chapter
69-20 69th Street,
Glendale, N.Y. 11385

MICHIGAN HAPPENINGS

This is the day after the night before. The night before found forty two members and guest defying dire weather predictions to get to the Annual Christmas Party/Meeting at the home of Bob and Flo DeSandy. Mother Nature cooperated though and we with the Hattons made the round trip on dry pavements.

The business meeting consisted of the installation of officers for 1984. Out going President Bill Andrews passed the gavel of authority to Floyd Hennessey and then proceeded to introduce Bill Zimmerman as First Vice President, Jack Safford, Second Vice President, Roger E. Alsgaard (Yours truly) as Secretary, Elmer Wagner, Treasurer, Don Lewis, Adjutant and Everett Tapp as Chaplain/Historian.

It was then announced that the February meeting would be held at Walli's Supper Club in Flint, Mi. on Saturday February 11, 1984. This party is being chaired by Jim and Audrey Bruner.

There being no other business to be allowed the meeting was declared adjourned by President Hennessey.

Of course man, and woman, must be fed so after a very enjoyable Cocktail Hour or more we sat down to eat. A very tender roast beef dinner was provided with all of the goodies

that go with that type dinner. Cake and cookies (the Christmas variety) and coffee left us feeling more than full.

Again Bob and Flo THANKS. It will be reported to a fuller extent so I will just announce the passing of our Fred M. Josey, G Co., 60th/N.F. A hard worker in the chapter and one who will be missed.

At this time each year our chapter holds a fund raising raffle and I mail raffle tickets to all members. I opened one return expecting to find ticket stubs. I was shocked to find that the envelope contained a notice advising me of the death of Leo Kramer of Capac, Mi. Leo was a member of the Michigan Chapter and served with 1st Bn. Hqs. Co. 60th Infantry. Those who may remember Leo may want to write to his family at 14870 Sharrad Road, Capac, Mi. 48014.

On that sad note, dear friends, I will close and pray that the Year 1984 finds the Good Lord looking kindly upon all of us.

Rodger E. Alsgaard Sec'y.
Michigan Chapter
9th Inf. Div. Ass'n.
2834 Wynes St.
Saginaw, Mi. 48602

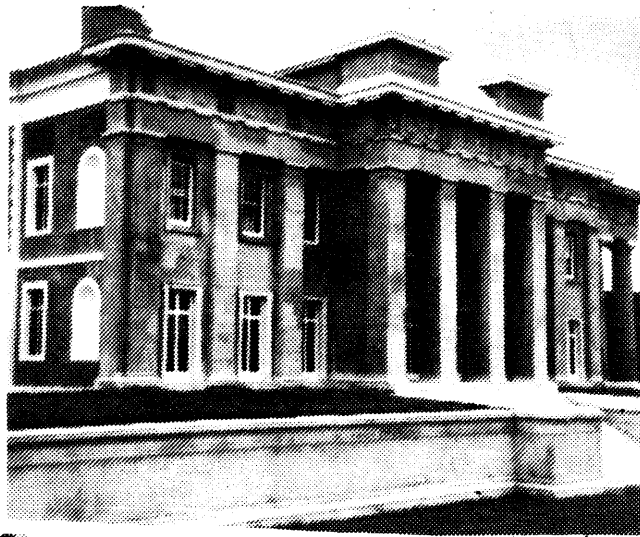
Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23

Reunion in 1984



Some of the members of the New York Chapter enjoying the luncheon at Cafe du Soir in New York City on November 8, 1983.



J. Edel Clark, A.T. Company 47th Infantry supplies us with these pictures of Northington Grange, headquarters for the 47th Infantry during our stay in England. Story appears in the Mail Call section of the Octofoil.

Tip of Hat

Remembering the Memorial Fund and their buddies who have answered their last roll call we thank the following members and friends:

Michael Stanick
Gerald Teachout
(In memory of James A. Panzone)

John Thornton
Jerome Shapiro
(In memory of Harold Jaffe)
Edwin Brewer
Irv Terchak
John A. Kocay
Justin O'Keefe
(In memory of his brother Capt. John J. O'Keefe)

Operation Come Back



On steps of the Hotel L'Atlantide, Safi formerly Hotel Marhaba and C.P. of 47th Infantry. Left to right: 1st row, Harry Sager, 60th, Blondina Sager; Eloise Hughes, Robert Hughes, 15th Eng.; John Clouser, 26th F.A.; Betty Wolfe, Eileen Tinberg, Bill Billings, 47th; Roy Tinberg, 60th; Woody Lockwood, 47th; Kacem, Courier. 2nd row: Clarence Combs, 47th Inf.; Alex Forrest, 15th Eng.; Olive Forrest, Geneva Combs, Matthew Scott, 47th; Frank Gonzol, 47th; Lillian Gonzol, Alex Hubbard, 60th; Rosemary Billings, Odelle Barber, Leonard Barber, 60th; Stephen Urbanyi, 60th Ray Wolfe, 60th.

OPERATION COME BACK

Frank Gonzol, F Co. 47th, suggested this appropriate title for the pilgrimage of 14 veterans of the 9th Infantry Division and 10 of their wives to Morocco and Tunisia covering a period of 19 days from departure October 7 to return on October 25, 1983.

Glossing over the trans-Atlantic flight, never an exercise in comfort and dignity these days, we landed at Nasser Airport in Casablanca where we were introduced to our courier Kacem and immediately boarded a spacious and comfortable bus for the trip to Safi, site of the landing of the 47th RCT whose mission was to secure this town, intercept any reinforcement coming towards Casablanca from Marrakech and ensure the orderly landing of the 2nd Armored Division so that they could move northward to Casablanca and subsequently secure the northern border of Morocco against any interference on the part of Spain, then under the dictatorship of Francisco Franco who had strong leanings towards Nazi Germany. Our hotel, the Atlantide was formerly the Marhaba which after the cessation of hostilities became the CP of the 47th RCT under the command of then Col. E.H. Randle, familiarly known among rank and file as The Bear. Not much has changed since that time except that the layers of dust which I remember vividly have been swept up, the windows are intact and the modest but attractive bar is now a source of good beer and assorted soft drinks. We had the afternoon at leisure to have lunch, wander towards the center of town and collect ourselves for a small reception and welcoming dinner. Regrettably we were unable to arouse any response towards our arrival on the part of Moroccan tourist interests or from anyone in the town of Safi so we enjoyed our own companionship and used the pleasant surroundings to make new acquaintanceships before retiring.

Safi

Safi is much changed from the sleepy, dusty and odiferous town which those of us who participated in the landings knew as it is now a bustling port from which phosphate ore is now shipped and which will soon have a processing plant in the

southern part of the city. Sardines are still canned there but this industry is shrinking. Our first look into the sites which were of interest was from the cliff overlooking Djorf el Yhoudi or Yellow Beach where 2nd BN 47th RCT landed including tour members Clarence Combs of "E" Co., Frank Gonzol from "F" Co. and Bill Billings and Woody Lockwood of "H" Co. The area inland from the beach is little changed, scattered buildings, a few grazing sheep, strong wind and, in our case sunshine and sparkling combers breaking on the shore. Time did not permit seeking out Lt. Col. Gershenow's tent site of the "company street" bivouac area as we were interested in the landing site of the 3rd BN, the Post Office, the old Portuguese fort and the port area, this not accessible to us. We located the European cemetery, no longer holding any American soldiers and the stadium in which 2nd BN bivouaced until their departure for Port Lyautey far to the North. Lunch was taken at our hotel and shortly thereafter we departed for Marrakech for the cultural, historic and contemporary aspects of our Moroccan visit.

Marrakech

Marrakech is now a tourist destination of formidable proportions as every visitor to Morocco includes it on his itinerary; tour busses by the score, individual travellers of all persuasions using everything for transportation from Mercedes to backpacks all swarm the streets and particularly Djem el Fna the square in the center of town which is a swarming ant hill of humanity. A day trip took us to Ourzazate in the scrub and scree desert for variety and then the following day to Fez, one of the four Imperial cities and which all agreed was a delight. The Medina there is a fascinating rabbit warren of alleys, shops, swarming humanity as well as donkeys, sheep, dogs and the ubiquitous cats. Everything in Morocco seems more orderly and clean than remembered and the populace has an air of pride and dignity befitting a stable society and a reasonably well balanced economy. Volubilis, the ruins of a Roman city with outstanding mosaics, Moulay Idriss a holy city and Meknes another of the Imperial cities

are worthy of attention although of no significance insofar as World War II is concerned. Rabat, the capital, is close to Kenitra, formerly Port Lyautey where the 60th RCT landed and yet easily accessible to the airport at Casablanca for our departure for Tunis.

The Kasbah

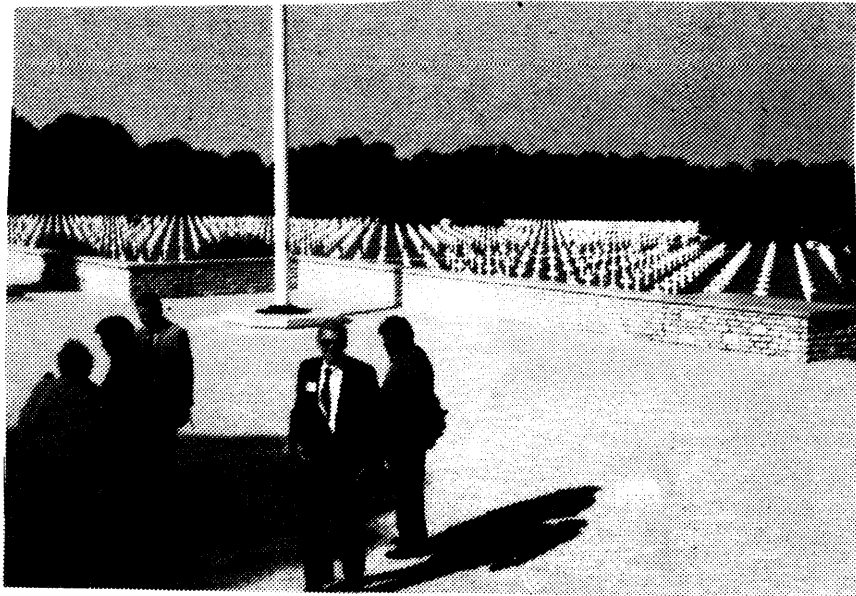
Mehdia-Plage, the Kasbah and the airport were the landing objectives for the 60th RCT and the view of the terrain from the roof-top of the club-house of a private shooting club on a commanding knoll above the glistening beaches shows clearly what natural obstacles the Go-Devils had to surmount to say nothing of the confusion resulting from a delay in landing of 1½ hours from H-Hour, lack of surprise and the dispersal of units over six or eight miles of beach area. We were able to put Ray Wolfe, A Co. 60th Infantry, within about 500 yards of where he landed with a small assault team whose mission was to mark the mouth of the Sebou River. The Kasbah does not look as formidable from the land side but it overlooks the surrounding country and the high wall on the seaside is impressive. The airport is now military terrain for the Moroccan forces and we were unable to undertake any exploration there.

Tunisia

Tunisia was our next destination and again we met our courier, Nurdin, at the airport and proceeded directly to Bizerte. "Dirty Girty", if indeed there ever was one, was not in evidence and we found our hotel pleasantly situated on the Mediterranean, which while warm enough for a swim was very rough so we were content with walking on the beach.

Bizerte

While it would have been more appropriate to have visited Gafsa and the southern area first we had to accommodate to our itinerary and go out to Sedjenane and the Green-Bald Hill areas from Bizerte. Relying on an excellent Michelin road map (#172 @ 1:1,000,000) and our copies of 8 STARS TO VICTORY and THE CAMPAIGN FOR NORTH AFRICA we were able to follow the paths of the 60th and the 47th as they came across the commanding hills and down to the open plain towards Ferryville and the port city. This countryside is quite fertile, although they have had unusually dry conditions for about three years now, and is under intense cultivation. The hills stand out and still give visual evidence of their defensive possibilities although we could ascertain no remains of battle from 1943. Departing from Bizerte we headed for



General view North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial.

Kairouan, an historic and holy city which was to be our base for the visit to El Guettar and Maknassy.

Imminently Qualified

It is difficult to convey to a young Tunisian archeological and literature degree holder why 24 over-age Americans want to visit the empty countryside to take pictures of village signs and to point out remote terrain features with such animation. World War II was a conflict between imperial nations which took place on Tunisian soil and has no political or historic relationship to present-day Tunisia. Nurdin was adequate to his task as a courier for the average tourist and for the mechanics of group travel but the points of interest to us were beyond his grasp. Fortunately we had with us an imminently qualified expert in Alex Forrest who had been S-3 of the 15th Engineer Battalion and he graciously consented to give the commentary so essential to understanding what took place and why. Several of the tour members said afterwards "I learned more about what I was doing here in a couple of hours than I knew all the time I was here" and I know all of us greatly appreciate his masterful resume of this action of the 9th Division in that remote and isolated backwater of the world. Having stopped in Kasserine Pass, at El Guettar, at Sened Station and Maknassy for photographs we were coming into Sidi bou Zid at full dusk and as the town marker appeared in his headlights the driver, in his only indication of having a sense of humor, said under his breath but yet loud enough to hear "Anyone want to take picture?"

Emotional Climax

The emotional climax to our memorable tour took place at the North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial on the outskirts of Carthage. Those who have seen them know that the overseas resting places of

our honored dead are beautifully and reverently kept in immaculate condition and are very informative. Moreover my experience has been that the American Battle Monuments Commission personnel are dedicated and sincere in their effort to help anyone who visits one of their cemeteries to find the grave of a comrade who may be interred there. Such was the case here as Superintendent David Puckett had researched and provided a roster of all the graves of members of the 39th, 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments, alphabetically and by organization and giving the specific grave location in the cemetery. The gracious and wholehearted cooperation and interest of the Embassy of the United States and of the office of the Defense Attache in Tunis was over and beyond any expectation. A suitable wreath had been ordered through the ABMC Mediterranean office and on arrival at Bizerte, liaison was established to set the order of our ceremony.

Ended Pilgrimage

On returning to Tunis a program was presented for our approval and on Saturday October 22, 1983 we were met at the Visitors building by Col. Landy Nelson, Commander "Rusty" Cook and Superintendent Puckett. On hand was an Honor Guard from the Tunisian armed forces, a Marine Corps Color Guard from the Embassy, a bugler from the Tunisian Army to play Taps, with echo, and our wreath. Bill Billings of "H" Co. 47th and Alex Hubbard of "C" Co. 60th presented the wreath at the Stone of Remembrance and John Clouser, former President of the 9th Infantry Division Association held a moment of silence and tendered a few appropriate remarks. So ended our pilgrimage on a note that none there we'll ever forget.

Boardman F. Lockwood, CTC
Tour Leader



El Guettar: Clarence Combs, 47th, Bob Hughes, 15th Eng; Matty Scott 47th; Bill Billings 47th; Alex Forrest 15th Eng; Frank Gonzol 47th; John Clouser 26th FA.

Return to the "Battle of Normandy"-1983

(A Report)
RETURN TO THE
"BATTLE OF NORMANDY"
1983

40th Anniversary
Remembrance

June, 1944 - World War II
DOCUMENTARY FILM TRIP

In the late summer of 1982, my wife, Barbara and I visited Utah Beach in Normandy, France. First time for her. Third time for me — twice before in war.

For the inspiration that followed, I excerpt from the introduction in my book: "40th Anniversary Remembrance — June, 1944 — WWII — BATTLE OF NORMANDY"

"... I stood on this Normandy beach absorbing the tranquility and remembering another less tranquil time ... From my shoulder bag I withdrew a drawing I made in 1944 of this same beach scene when I and thousands of other G.I.s landed here that June during World War II ... The drawing was the first of a series I made in an Army Hospital while recovering from wounds as a 19 year old aspiring artist and Infantryman, chronicling my war experiences in the Cherbourg Peninsula Campaign with the 9th Infantry Division ...

"... Inspired, in the fall of 1982 this not so young artist began researching and documenting his WWII drawings, and writing his story of the Battle of Normandy for a 1984 40th Anniversary Remembrance."

Book Was Finished

The book was finished for the most part in July, 1983. It was favorably reviewed by the Army Public Affairs Dept. and the French Embassy Cultural Affairs Dept. in New York City.

While the book was looking for a publisher, I was planning another trip back to Normandy in the Fall of 1983 to film and shoot stills for a possible TV documentary. The film would follow the story and route in the book, matching the same locations of events depicted in the drawings, from Utah Beach to Cherbourg.

Approved Film Project

The French Embassy approved of my film project and also my intention of presenting copies of the drawings to the Fort du Roule War & Liberation Museum in Cherbourg. With the kind assistance of Ms. Ami Hurlimann of the French Cultural Services, I received a letter of introduction from the French Embassy Cultural Attache, Xavier North to the Conservateur of the museum.

Barbara and I flew to Paris on September 2, 1983. After a visit to the Cherbourg Museum on the 5th we were officially received at the Mayor of Cherbourg's Office on the 6th. The drawings were accepted by Deputy Mayor; M. Chasles, Museum Conservateur; Claude Brechoire and the Mayor's Attache, Charles Lepeley who translated. They were very cordial to us and pleased to display the drawings as part of the Normandy Campaign museum collection, where the 9th Infantry Division is honored for their key role in the Liberation of Cherbourg in WWII.

Ste. Mere Eglise

After the presentation in Cherbourg, Barbara and I drove down to Ste. Mere Eglise. A set of drawings relating to the Airborne Operation of D-Day was also presented to the Airborne Museum which was accepted by Mayor M. Renaud (whose father, Alexandre Renaud was Mayor of Ste. Mere Eglise on D-Day and who wrote a definitive book as an

eyewitness and participant in the Airborne landing ground operations.)

One more set of drawings was presented to the Utah Beach Museum and accepted for the Mayor of Sainte Marie du Mont, M. de Vallaireille whom we were not able to meet because of the start of our tight film schedule.

Utah Beach

After the presentations Barbara and I started on our film trip from Utah Beach where I first landed on June 13, 1944. We followed the battle route, researched in advance, using formerly Secret 1944 60th Regimental daily G-3 battle reports, 1:25,000 1943-44 Military maps and overlays, current Michelin French road map #54 — and copies of the drawings.

The film trip took 5 days to complete. Barbara did most of the photography while I drove, "directed" and retraced my steps. We used a Sankyo 620 Super 8 sound camera with 160 Extachrome film, and a 35mm SLR Konica T2 with a Vivitar 35mm wide angle lens and Kodachrome 200 film. Each evening we returned to Cherbourg and stayed at the Hotel Mercure which was modern and comfortable, since no location was more than 1/2 to 3/4 hours drive from Cherbourg.



6-19-44 - Surrender of the "Wehrmacht" old and young troops near St. Bonin le-Bailard. Frightened young prisoner waves a letter or document probably indicating he's not a German or he's underage.

Never Forget

My tour of France in war was over — in 17 days.

I had arrived on Utah Beach a green Replacement — become a combat Infantryman — and returned to Utah Beach a wounded veteran.

17 days I would never forget! As an artist, the drawings I did in the hospital gave me a chance to depict a real life experience of a 19 year-old in war. It was also a way to remember those who shared a common experience of war — the fear, tragedy, humor, poignancy and luck ... of the combat Infantryman!

This is what I hope my 40th Anniversary Remembrance conveys in book and film.

Lucky

I was lucky. I survived the war and returned home to tell the story. Many others didn't. Before we left Normandy in 1982 Barbara and I visited the American Cemetery at St. Laurent, above Omaha Beach. For some the war lasted minutes on the invasion beaches. Others fell days, weeks, months later. The 9000 grave markers stand in mute testimony to the supreme sacrifice Americans gave to bring about the complete victory over Hitler's military stranglehold on Europe nearly 40 years ago.

Mine was not the supreme sacrifice — but my blood, a part of me as with thousands of other G.I.s remain forever in the soil of France.

"No man is an Island intire of it selfe; ... any mans death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankinde; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; It tolls for thee." (From John Donne's The Tolling Bell — A Devotion)

Odyssey is Over

And now my return odyssey is over. It was a memorable



Marvin Levy, Company A 60th Infantry, is shown visiting the Fort-du-Roule Museum in Cherbourg during Film Trip in Normandy September 1983. The Ninth Division is prominently acknowledged for its key role in the liberation of Cherbourg in World War 2.

26 FIELD ARTILLERY

It was a beautiful Mass. The congregation was very attentive to the words of the celebrant. A few member of the choir, dressed in their white robes, sang from the altar rather than from the choir loft. The execution of commands by the color guard of the Worcester Police Department was faultless.

The marching was excellent. This writer is one of the many who have had to forego the parade. Our legs have given us a warning.

Solemn Ceremony

As usual the outdoor ceremony drew the attention of those leaving the 10 a.m. Mass. Early arrivals for the 11 o'clock Mass also witnessed a part of the solemn ceremony at our Worcester were very pleased to again invite us to their City.

This year the weather was a little unsettled. Everyone who traveled by car had some problems with showers. No serious accidents were reported. The weather man did not interfere with the outdoor memorial service.

Here N There

Ted Schmidt, 1803 Allen Lane, Abington, Penn. was the only member present from Hdqtrs. Btry. His wife, Helen, was with him. John Clouser was reported to be in Africa. Dick Rogers called to say that he could not make the Mass. If you are looking for Christmas trees in quantities, call Dick in Whitefield, N.H.

Milt Parrott and Ed Nelson have become permanent residents of Centerville on Cape Cod. Milt lives at 12 Longfellow Drive and Ed is at 311 White Oak Trail. Bob Warner is still single and from all reports intends to stay that way. John Babbitt, 738 Berkley St., Taunton, Mass. looks very healthy considering that he has been hospitalized many times since discharge. Ed, John and Milt each had their wife with them. John Babbitt Jr. was the chauffeur for his mother and father. Ed Finkelstein from New York City was in Worcester for the first time. He did see some of the old gang.

Henry Cappella is a very sick man. Before he can do anything that might cause a little exertion he must see his doctor. Before he can travel he must see his doctor. Henry saw his doctor on November 4. After a close examination the doctor gave Henry permission to go to

Worcester. Henry had a set back Saturday night and had to be hospitalized. At this writing this writer has had no report on Henry. Dan Mazeika has the golf bug. He has followed the little white ball for as many as seven consecutive days. Rain or shine does not bother Danny. Mr. and Mrs. Pernokas have taken it upon themselves to shake up "B" Battery.

Mr. and Mrs. Marcus M. Sciarappa, 1015 Grossmere Ave., Wanamassa, N.J. are always early arrivals for this week end in Worcester. Connie Matulis is a Worcester man. Tom Boyle, Somerville, and Jim Hennelly, Newton are local boys. John Mc Colgan was a local boy back in 1941 but now lives at 66 Lincoln Street, East Hanover, N.J. Brooklyn attended his first Memorial Mass. Charles Kline, a resident of Baltimore enjoyed his week end in Worcester.

Service Battery

Service Battery was honored by the presence of Alvin B. Meyer for the first time. Al, where have you been all of these years? Other men of Service Battery were John Murray, Harry Fry, Elmer Roscoe Joe Albanese, John Quinn. Bill Bongiorno, Paul Turner, Louis Pergiovanni and Joe McKenzie. Also present to enjoy this special week and were Dorothy Fry, Joyce Roscoe, Jeanette Albanese, Winifred Quinn, Ellie Bongiorno, Louise Pergiovanni and Alice McKenzie. Short letters were received from Anthony Ponticello, Bill Andrews and Harold Wallace. All wanted to be remembered to the gang. None reported any serious health problems. Anthony and Bill like many of us are enjoying retired life. Harold has a long way to go before he gets in that age bracket.

Plan For Lake Placid

The cold winter season is upon us. Stay in a warm house. Keep out of the cold weather unless you are a winter sports enthusiast from the Rocky Mountain States. Make plans for Lake Placid before June. If necessary, see your travel agent before November to help you with plans for Worcester.

Remember this name and address, Francis Maher, 14 Davenport Street, Worcester. You may need him next fall to find hotel accommodations for you.

Joseph McKenzie
95 Washington Ave.
Waltham, Mass.
02154

60th Inf. Co A
MARVIN LEVY
2044 Ellen Drive
Merrick, N.Y. 11566

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column? Just a postal card would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. You like to read what other members send in ... why not do your own part and write a few lines now and then for their enjoyment.

mail call

continued

47th A.T. - MED
ROGER GARTLAND
706 Marianna Rd.
Auburndale, Fl. 33823

This P.M. Esther and I attended a travelogue based on Belgium. A few scenes from the rural areas looked a bit familiar. Like all other places great changes come about in a period of 40 years. The issue of the Octofoil arrived here this past week and I believe that every word has been read. The little pictures showing scenes in the Remagen area are interesting. It is too bad that more recognition has not been given to our division. I remember well crossing the old railroad bridge. Indeed we are pleased that the 1984 reunion will be held at Lake Placid, since it is about a 3 hour drive from Watertown. We would be able to be in the advance party if there is any small way that our aid could be of any value. Best regards and here's hoping we'll meet at Lake Placid.

60th Inf. Hqs.
JOHN COMPEL
2020 Barnsdale Ave.
McKeesport, Pa. 15132

Enclosed are my dues for the next 3 years. Enjoy the Octofoil very much. Have been retired for 2 years and really am living the life of Reilly now! Waiting for my wife to retire and then we will be able to travel and do whatever we want together. Hope to make the Lake Placid reunion in 1984. Didn't get to the 1983 shindig but did get to Fort Bragg. Have a healthy and happy New Year.

Div. Arty. Hq. & Hq. Btry
DILLARD ARMSTRONG
1941 Master St.
Beloit, Wi. 53511

Enclosed find dues for 3 years. I enjoy the Octofoil very much and I would like to hear from some of the boys in Hq. & Hq. Div. Arty. I have lost track of them. My wife and I enjoyed the reunion in Ft. Bragg, but missed the one in Detroit. Have been looking for the book "Pawns of War" so I'm glad the Octofoil has the address where to order. Wishing you and all the boys a very Merry Christmas.

WITH A FRIEND

Look God, I have never spoken to You,
But now I want to say, "How do You do?"
You see, God, they told me You didn't exist,
And like a fool, I believed all this.

Last night from a shell hole, I saw Your sky,
I figured right then they had told me a lie,
Had I taken time to see things You made,
I'd have known they weren't calling a spade a spade.
I wonder, God, if You'd shake my hand.
Somehow, I feel that You will understand,
Funny I had to come to this hellish place,
Before I had time to see Your Face.

Well, I guess there isn't much more to say,
But I'm sure glad, God, I met You today,
I guess the "Zero hour" will soon be here,
But I'm not afraid since I know You're near.
The Signal! Well, God, I'll have to go,
I like You lots, this I want You to know,
Look now, this will be a terrible fight,
Who knows, I may come to Your house tonight.

Though I wasn't friendly to You before,
I wonder, God, if You'd wait at Your door,
Look, I'm crying! Me! Shedding tears!
I wish I had known You these many years,
Well, I have to go now, God, good-bye!
Strange since I met You I'm not afraid to die.

PRIVATE J.J.W.

The above poem was found on the body of an American soldier killed in action. It was recently recited by Shirley Temple in the course of radio War Bond appeals on national networks.

Chaplain John M. Bellamy
Holloran General Hospital
Staten Island, New York

Submitted by Louis J. Netta, Anti-Tank Co 60th Inf.

60th Inf. H Co.
JOHN A. KOCAY
151 S. 12th Ave.
Manville, N.J. 08835

May I wish you the best of health and God's Blessings for years to come. You can't miss. Dan. You're Catholic, you're Irish, you're a 9th division man, always in good company with Fr. Connors. Looking forward to seeing you and all the gang in Worcester 1984, with a summer meeting at Lake Placid also on the agenda.

47th Inf. Hq.
DUANE D. OLSON
131 N. Bay Lane #5
Port Ludlow, Wa. 98365

Enclosed is my check for 3 years dues. Time passes so fast that today is running into tomorrow! A letter from Orion Shockley in the Octofoil shocked me into taking action and rejoining the association. We live 40 miles from Seattle so I will perhaps see him. Best regards.

60th Inf. Co. I, Pers Hqs
BERNARD SMITH
910 13th Ave.

Huntington, W. Va. 25701
This is rather delinquent and I do apologize for being so late with my dues. I really miss receiving the Octofoil, it's a good publication and always contains news of someone I had known during the war years. I missed the get together this year, but hope to make the next one. I haven't heard from any of my former friends for quite some time, Drummond, Engle, Bomburg, Hodges, Deresh. Let me hear from you.

47th E Co.
C. E. COMBS
109 Arcadia Dr.
Middletown, Ohio 44660

Don't know when my dues are due, so here is a check for 3 years. Made the trip to North Africa and it was great. The place has changed, only the smell is the same! Thanks to Alex Forrest and Woody Lockwood we found out more about the war and where everything happened. Everyone on the trip was just wonderful. Thanks to John Trevelise and Vince Iannucci and their wives for coming to the airport to see us off. May God Bless.

60th Inf. Co. F
JOHN MILLER
1511 Cochise Dr.
Arlington, Tx. 76012

The editor stands corrected on John's last letter to the Octofoil. Those not present but accounted for were: Howard Heilman, Phil Berman, Fred Herrin, Joseph Manor, Walter Bryson, Jim Geagan, Ed Pavlich, William Voller, Bill Nicholas, Leonard Castner, Roy Paquin, Lester Paquin.

This has been a year of decision and adventure for the Millers. John W. decided to retire from his second career in February. To keep him busy we went into the home development business. So far, this is on a small scale and we hope to continue it in 1984.

As soon as John W. retired, Jean started planning a long-anticipated adventure. This would take us 40,000 miles, 15 European countries, travelling by air, ship, rail and car. Our trip started by a flight to London, travel through England, ferry to Ireland and a week by car through scenic Ireland. A rail trip through the Scandinavian countries was fantastic with the breathtaking scenery of the Norwegian fjords. Our northernmost point was seven hundred miles north of the Arctic Circle and much to our surprise the temperature was 70 degrees. People were very friendly but we found this part of the trip expensive because of the food.

Our next stop was Germany where we picked up a new car at the factory, and drove across France to visit friends on an island off the Normandy coast. Our travel through France was terrific. Jean was navigator and translator, armed with maps and the Michelin Guide. We spent time along the coast (photographing topless) visiting wine country around Bordeaux, Hennessy Cognac plant, Roquefort cheese caves, etc. Loving the best of food Jean made sure we ate our way across France eating in the best restaurants. Michelin could recommend. Germany was even better than France. The countryside was so well kept, homes freshly painted and farms looking like they were manicured. Old cars are a thing of the past over there: Mercedes was the name of the game.

In the two and a half months in Europe we visited most of the countries' capitals and John W. attended Rotary Clubs in six countries. Throughout our travels we talked with so many friendly people and all recognize that it's America that keeps them free.

While we were away, Keith became engaged to a lovely girl from college named Ronni. He had graduated from college last May with three majors. Currently he is Assistant Manager for Western Auto but is looking for a bigger and better challenge each day. Wedding plans are tentative for this summer so our plans are on hold.

Our trip was unforgettable and nothing could be more enjoyable for us. However, it is so nice to be back home. We have a slide program of our travels for all visitors to see.

Hope this finds you all healthy and ready for the New Year. Merry Xmas, Joyeux Noel, Froehliche Weihnachten, Hauskaa Joulua, Glaedelig Jul, Zelig Kerstfeest, Nodlaig Nait Cugst, Felices Pascuas, Glad Jul.

376th AAA, D Btry.
HERBERT (HAP) LASTRA
925 Val Park Ave.
Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580

I am sorry I have been AWOL for 38 years. Thanks to a great article in my local paper I am a new member of the 9th. I was always under the impression that those of us who were in attache unite were not welcome to become members. How wrong I was! I wrote to Fr. Connors and received an answer immediately assuring me that any member of an attached unit is most assuredly welcome. My wife and I got our christening of fire at Worcester this past November, it was a real gasser. We were welcomed with open arms even tho we didn't know a single solitary person when we arrived at the Sheraton. When we left, we had so many names and addresses of heartfelt memories of good fellowship. I would like to thank all those who we came in contact with and to allow us to be members in the association, it is an honor indeed. We hope we attend as many functions as possible in the future. God willing. I would hope that this message will be read by some old G.I.'s from the 9th and its attached units that they may become involved again. I would like to find out if anyone out there has had any contact with any of my old buddies from D Btry? With the passage of time I have lost all the addresses of these great friends, not withstanding. George Waldron of A Btry who has written mail call several times. I happen to have the last 12 editions of the Octofoil through the graciousness of Adolph Wasalavage, whom I do not even know. It would be nice to hear from good soldiers like Johnny (the nose) Pelle, Carmen Butera, Chris Bucci, Eddie Bird and so many more, like Chet Drembowski, Bill Cook, Mike Jackman, Walter Gladney. We had good and bad times and it would be a marvelous occasion to make up a couple of tables of these fellows at our next pilgrimage to Fr. Connors.

The 1984 date falls on Nov. 11th. As I recall, most of D Btry was staffed by New Jerseyites coming from Trenton. I wouldn't mind hearing them spout their cities slogan again. "What Trenton makes, the world takes". For a major share of time during combat, after St. Lo, until the breakout from the Hurtgen Forest. I spent much time with the forward switchboard of the 84th FA, but have forgotten all the names of those fine fellows. As a wire man I came in contact with a diverse group of outfits, as all our 8 gun sections and FA outfits whom we D Btry 376th AAA provided perimeter air cover protection and also used

our quadra pie mount machine guns (50MM) for fire power with the infantry. I hope this letter is read by someone from my outfit or associated with, so we can get together with letters to mail call. God bless all the members of the 9th division.

15th Engrs
HENRY SANTOS
9811 N. Connechusett Rd
Tampa, Fl. 33617

Just five years ago I entered the Tampa VA Hospital with a stroke coming on. For a few days I thought the world had come to an end for me, I was really down and prayed to die rather than be a burden, especially to my wife Eva. The Lord didn't see it that way so with His help and the help and encouragement of my family, friends and hospital staff I've made a recovery such as I've not seen in any other stroke victim, there isn't much I need to do that is too difficult.

As you know I started in 1980 to visit and photograph all 48 connecting state capitol buildings which was completed this summer when I drove almost 16,000 miles (10,773 mi. on the trailer). There's so much to see in this country and some kind of R.V. I think is the best way to go. We visited relatives and/or friends in at least 11 states. The initial investment is the biggest expense, gasoline is next.

I say all this hoping to reach anyone out there who finds himself in the same predicament not to give up, when you're down there's only one way to go, UP. Doctors, nurses, therapists etc. can help and show you how but the patient rides the storm of frustrations encountered before that finger, knee etc. moves on its own for the first time. I'll never forget the thrill when I tied my shoe for the first time in months.

Hopefully this letter will "open the door" for others out there to pass on their experiences and advice. I forgot to mention that I recently brought down a big oak tree which had to be climbed first to saw off the top 25 ft. or so with a hand saw (I didn't have the strength in my fingers to pull the cord on a power saw). I thank GOD each day for HIS blessings. I'm thankful too to those who gave me encouragement, I couldn't have done it without them.

Eva & I send our best wishes to you, Marie and all our buddies for a blessed, healthy, happy & prosperous New Year.

Reunion in 1984
Lake Placid
June 21, 22, 23

If wives only knew what the secretaries think of their husbands, they wouldn't worry.



Cork Forest, Port Lyautey (now Kenitra): Frank Gonzol 47th and Bob Hughes 15th Eng. and onlookers.

Lake Placid 1984
June 21, 22, 23

mail call

continued

47th Inf. G & Hq Co
SPENCER NORWOOD
City Mobile Home Park
Sarasota, Fla. 34278

I have a little tale to relate that could be of interest to some of the fellows. As I was passing a couple of the fellows here in the park, I heard some one mention El Guettar. I butted in and asked if he was in the 47th and he said he was in E company and was taken prisoner on an early morning late in March of 1943. He said they marched them back aways and put them on trucks, then on to a train ending in Tunis. After that they were put on planes and flown to Italy. Some time later they went on to Germany. He was in 3 different POW camps, first at Moosburg, then one near Frankfurt and then at Luckenwalde. We were near Dessau when the war ended. He was not aware that his old outfit was so near. I tried to fill him in on the travels of the 9th after his capture. He had been in I and E Co back in Bragg. His name is John Hynes and he used to live in New York. A little joke that we share, is that he took the short route to Germany and the rest of us took the long way. Thanks to all of you for keeping the association going and everyone enjoys getting the paper.

39th Inf. F Co
EDWARD J. MCNAMARA
Church St.
Brookfield, N.Y.

Imagine my surprise when a van with a 9th division emblem on it pulled in to our Antique shop on Rt. 20 near Bridgewater, N.Y. Out jumped a guy with a big smile on his face and asked if he could look around. I asked if he was a 9th division man and he said he was. I told him I was also, but he was before my time. It didn't make any difference because we had a long talk. He's been back 4 times this summer and each time was after me to join. Last time he brought an application with him which I am enclosing with my check. His name is George Michalec and he is also in the antique business in Connecticut. I believe he said next years reunion is in Lake Placid. We plan on attending and hope to meet Sweeney, the scout for 2nd Plt. F Co. 39th Inf. and some of the other guys, Sgt. Rook. Till next year.

15th Engrs. Co. A
CARLTON POPE
Pope's Peak Rt. 47
Bennington, N.H. 03442

Our plans have been changed and we are going to spend the winter in Yuma, Arizona instead of South Carolina.

15th Engrs. Bn. Hq. & "A" Co.
ALEX FORREST
241 N. Vine St. Apt. 702W
Salt Lake City, Ut. 84103

The North African trip was terrific! It was interesting and educational and it brought back many memories. The Memorial Service at the U.S. Military Cemetery at Carthage, Tunisia was very moving and we owe a debt of gratitude to our Tunis Embassy for their cooperation in arranging it. Those of us who made the trip also owe Woodie Lockwood our thanks for the considerable effort he made to put this trip together and for seeing to it that it was as enjoyable as it was.

Site for 1984 Reunion

Lake Placid
June 21, 22, 23, 1984.

VIVIENNE MORGAN KUHR
(sister of George Morgan)
Company A 47th
101 Daniel Low Terr.
Staten Island, N.Y. 10301

I am so proud to be a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Ninth Infantry Division and thank both of you for making me an "Honorary" one.

Well, the "Pony Express" arrived with The Octofoil and I'm enjoying reading every article. It was nice of Bill Coen, Peter Cusak and Frank Lorito to remember Ed. Egan, who was a wonderful friend to all who knew him.

It was interesting, too, to read Mr. Carpenter's letter about the "FOURRAGERE" award given on two occasions to the brave men of the "9TH" in the liberation of Belgium. (I saw that name mentioned in my brother's papers, but did not know what it meant.)

Incidentally, Dan, after World War II, George showed me his cartoons on display at the Fifth Avenue Library. I wonder where they are now.

And please thank your friend for giving me the Octofoil pin at Ed's funeral. (I do not remember his name.)

I hope you are both in good health now and wish you all the blessings of this joyous Season. MERRY CHRISTMAS and a healthy and HAPPY NEW YEAR.

60th Inf. Serv Co
THOMAS BILLINGS
c/o William Billings
3907 Sugarberry
N. Platte, Neb. 69101

It was great attending the reunion in Detroit. I am retired, from a life long career in chemistry, over a year. I have been consulting half time for another company, and now have been offered a position in Brazil for about a year and a half. My wife and I are leaving Dec. 25th, and my new address is as above. It has been a delightful experience seeing some of my old friends at the last 2 reunions and I want to make the one at Lake Placid.

60th Inf. K & Hqs Co 3rd Bn
JOSEPH RAPPAZINI
24001 Sherman Ave.
Oak Park, Mi. 48237

Shortly after being separated from the service in Dec. 1945, Larry Emmerich and his wife, Etta, visited my wife Shirley and me in Detroit. This past October we returned the visit—some 38 years later! What a wonderful reunion it was. We had corresponded over the years, but to my surprise, I learned that Larry had found out about the Octofoil association only a year or so before. He was with the 2nd Bn of the 60th and held the rank of captain. He and his men made a crossing of the Meuse River when Germany was first being invaded. The attempt was spotted by the Germans and the firing that ensued resulted in a number of boats being lost. Larry and several of the men did not get across. However, he was wounded and captured. For some 10 months he was a POW. Listening to him recount his experiences opened up a new facet of the war for me. It has become another of the treasures associated with the fond memories linked to those of so many good men of the 9th, and in particular K Co and the 3rd Bn 60th Inf.



39th Inf. Co A
THOMAS BOWEB
23 Roslyn Rd.
Sound Beach, N.Y. 11789

In your last issue, my letter was published. I was trying to locate some of the men from my outfit, Co A, 39th Inf. In this same issue a Robert Schae-nekase also had a letter. I have written to him as he may know some of the men I am trying to locate. Please be advised that there was an error in my address in the letter published. You had the town as South Brook instead in Sound Beach. Thank you again for your help. Looking forward to the next issue.

60th Inf. K Co
MERTON H. BEEBE
176 E. Robbins Ave.
Newington, Ct. 06111

Enclosed is a check for the dues with my apologies for being late. I was very interested to read in the Octofoil the career of L.C. "Pat" Williamson as I served under him and the officers he mentioned. Cpt. Keene Wilson and Major Bruchac also other non-coms Sprinkle, Dobbins and Lawson with whom I served. I regret due to some serious medical problems I have not been able to attend any of the recent reunions. However I am always interested in their activities.

84th F.A
RAYMOND PEQUE
328 Monroe St.
Carlstadt, N.J. 07072

Hoping to find you well along with your family. I served with the 84th from 1942-1945.

I made "the road back" during 1955 with my own car aboard the Queen Elizabeth going - Queen Mary returning May - August 1955.

I covered 10,000 miles beginning with Dover-Calais crossing and down through France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Holland and of course England where the 9th stayed 1943 thru June 1944. I covered all our stops.

What prompted this letter, Dan is that I have very good photographs that may interest the troops:

Remagen March 1945 photo's of 84th FA making crossing on March 9?

Remagen 1955 10 years later how it looks now.

9th familiar positions in Ziegfried? Line 9/44

EUPEN NOW

Normandy Coast Now

9th positions before 3/9/45

Cherborough 1955 and, if anyone is interested:

1945 9th photos "War is Over"

Cassino Italy the famous bastion THEN and NOW*

* I photographed it in 1955 showing the new rebuilt monastery high on the summit. This photo is one of a kind worthy of LIFE or TIME because I met a GI who photographed same picture during the original siege 1944? You are welcome to print these and other in Octofoil but what do you prefer NEGATIVE Or Contact print version.

xxNear Identical camera angle!

Div Hqs
PAUL P. ACETO
54 Strickland St.
Manchester, Conn. 06040

I saw red on the address of my Octofoil, so 'tis dues time. Enclosed please find my check for 3 years. This past May had the opportunity to visit a former 9th man in New Jersey. I understand he isn't a member. His name is John Healey; 4 Mountain Way, W. Orange, N.J. All you people deserve a lot of credit for keeping things going.

39th Inf. Hq. Co
EUGENE PRIMERANO
140 Webster Road
Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

Just received my copy of the Octofoil and once again enjoyed reading it. It also reminded me that my dues will be expiring shortly so I am enclosing another three year subscription.

Although I was with HQ Co. 39th Infantry from Jan. 1941 til Sept. 1942 I've always kept a keen interest in the 9th Div throughout the War. I was commissioned in the Signal Corps and served in the Pacific Theatre until the end in 1945.

I'm aware that the Division had many replacements thru their many campaigns in Europe, and proud of their heroic accomplishments. Of all of my buddies that went overseas with the unit I sometimes wonder whatever became of them.

In 1941, a 39th Infantry year-book was published, a copy still in my possession. I use it every time I read of a 39th letter printed in the Octofoil, but many members came into the Regiment after the book was printed which tells me that the turnover in personnel was high.

Many letters thank you for a wonder job you and your Mrs. are doing. I would like to join that group and say "Thanks." Enclosed is my check for three years dues.

47th Inf Co D
WALTER STANKO
364 Bark St.
Swansea, Ma. 02777

I regret to inform you of the death of my buddy, Francis "Pete" Picard. He was with D Co. 47th for nearly 4 years and a Technical Sgt. He was well liked and a friend to all his comrades. A firing squad was present and taps were sounded at the National Cemetery of Mass. in Bourne, Mass.

60th Inf Co D
JAMES T. CANADA
PO Box 434
Snannon, Ga. 30172

Enclosed are my dues for 1984. I had a letter from an old buddy from D Co, Paul Pelish. I also saw a letter from another guy from my outfit, Paul Clark, don't know if he remembers me. I see quite a few letters from my old outfit but can't seem to recall their names. Also had a letter from a Lt. from Florida but can't recall ever knowing him even tho he knew me. Best regards to all.

15 Engrs. Co A
EDWARD J. BOYLE
860 Columbia St.
Pt. Charlotte, Fl. 33948

Ed writes that Carl Ramstrom formerly C Co. 15th Engrs passed away several years ago and also Armand Santerre formerly Hq Co. 15th Engrs, a driver for Co. Henney passed away.

39th Inf. Co. A
THOMAS BOWER
23 Roslyn Rd.
Sound Beach, N.Y. 11789

I enjoy reading every mail call edition because it is fun to look for someone you know from the 9th. So far I have been lucky I have found a few. Looking through the history book I see 39 years ago my Co. A was in the Hohe Mark sector. Seems like only yesterday. I am still looking for someone that may know the whereabouts of my former platoon leader, 1st Lt. Anthony. I sure would like to locate him. I am looking forward to attending the reunion at Lake Placid, as it is a beautiful place to see. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

47th Inf B Co
ARTHUR STENZEL
8705 Village Mill Row
Bayonet Pt., Fl. 33567

I am enclosing a picture taken in the "Town Pump" in 1951-2, looks like they could do with a few companies of infantrymen, thirsty ones. At this time I visited the 47th area out on the post, did a little "recon" around "B" company area which led me to being "requested" to appear at the C.I.A. headquarters. I was requested to put all my belongings out on the table for inspection and was questioned about everything beginning with what I was doing in Fayetteville. Tho' not completely impressed that I was just revisiting, the officer finally explained that I had walked into the 82nd Airborne maneuvers between the red and blue teams, that they learned the "Enemy" would infiltrate as civilians, etc., and advised me I could have "cooled my ass" for 3 or 4 days while they investigated more thoroughly. Needless to say I was appreciative of his written pass and made exit directly! Things might have gone worse had he looked at the back of my watch, it was an Army issue bearing serial numbers, etc. and if they opened the trunk of my car they would have found a large Revere type recorder and tapes. I might still have been "cooling" it in 1983!

60th Inf. F. Co.
JERRY TEACHOUT
1600 W. Struck Sp. 165
Orange, Ca. 92667

Received the Octofoil and noticed there was no mention of the passing of James Panzone. Jimmy died of cancer Aug. 1983. Many from F Co. will remember him as jeep driver for Capt. Urban, then later Capt. Johnson and then Lt. Painter who were C.O.'s of F. Co. in North America, Sicily and Europe. His widow, Jane, lives at 10716 Johnstown Rd., New Albany, Ohio 34054. I was fortunate in being able to visit Jim prior to the reunion. Although we had not seen each other in more than 38 years, we would have known each other anywhere. While still very ill, Jim had the hopes of recovering enough to make a reunion. Enclosed find a donation to the Memorial Fund in his memory.

60th Inf K Co
JAMES F. HART, Jr.
7 Nenagh Dr.
Wilmington, Del. 19803

That time of the year is here again so I am enclosing dues for the coming year. Spotted some familiar names in the Octofoil and certainly is a pleasure to see them there than in the obit column. We added 3 more grandchildren, now have 11. Expect to hold steady for a couple of years at least. I bought a copy of Bill Kreye's book and enjoyed it. I did think his letter was a bit much, but if you don't pat yourself on the back some other guy might and the danger here he may have a knife in his hands. My best to all the fellows and Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year to all.

60th Inf L Co
EDWIN E. BREWER
222 Park Ave.
Maryville, Mo. 64468

Enclosed is check for dues plus something for the Memorial Fund. The wife and I made some trips this past summer, one with our 11 yr old grandson to Nebraska and South Dakota. Both of us are in good health and retired now for 10 years and enjoying life. Hoping this finds you both well and about to enjoy the holidays. Best Wishes

MAIL CALL

47th Inf. A.T. Co.
J. EDEL CLARK, JR.
P.O. Box 146
Camden, S.C. 29020

No doubt you have heard from Dan Adams in reference to Harold F. Siegles' passing in October. He was one of our "Ole Timers" from the Fort Bragg days. Harold was a DRAFTEES but one of the finest soldiers I have ever known. We served together from Africa to Germany thru good days and bad. In my capacity as platoon leader and company commander he served as a reliable sounding board to provide useful information on the state of morale of Antitank Company, 47th Inf. He knew when our soldiers had personal problems, when they needed a pat on the back or other types of motivation. His caring attitude, his compassion for his fellow man, coupled with his understanding of the need for discipline made him an indispensable asset to our unit.

Fortunately he and his wife, Ann, visited us in June of 83 and we had a great time reminiscing of our days together thru Africa, Sicily, England, France and Germany. We worked hard but played hard too. We talked about retracing our steps someday together but it was not to be.

I revisited England in 58, 73 and 77. I was especially interested in Winchester, Alton, New Alresford, Northington Grange and of course London. I was distressed to see Northington Grange in ruins and being used to stow hay. Portions were being pulled down in 1977. Since then it has been declared a Historic Treasure and the exterior has been restored at considerable cost. It is now open to the public — exterior only. Enclosed is a picture sent by an English friend which may be printable. Pulling Mill at New Alresford is still as beautiful as you may recall it with its crystal clear water, filled with fish, flowing right under the house which was built before 1513. The rose gardens are beyond description and manicured to perfection. Ham Bones' grave, the 47th dog mascot, is well marked on the banks of the river. A plaque in memory of Chuck Minton, I failed to find. (I know there is one somewhere)

In November 1982, my wife and I took a tour of a part of Europe. While in Brussels, I rented a car and drove via Liege to Verviers, Eupen, Roetgen, Zweifall, Vicht, Shavenhutte, Mausbach, Stolbert and Aachen. It was difficult to recognize any place. I did find the Regimental C. P. in Vicht, which was in a school house almost adjacent to a church. I also found my old C. P. there. We were in this area from September until November when the winter offensive began as I recall.

I did not intend to write a book but wanted to share these experiences with the finest men I have ever known. I always enjoy the Octofoil, especially mail call.

Keep up the good work. Hope to see you at Lake Placid in June.

Hq 60th F.A.
LEWIS H. GRAY JR.
Box 12, Rt 3
Fontana, Wi. 53125

Looking for the address of Lt. or Capt. Thomas Gaffney, 60th FA Bn.

39th Inf. 1st Bn Hq's
WILLIAM KREYE
337-20th St.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215

Let me wish you and every member of the 9th a very Merry Xmas and a happy, prosperous and Healthy New Year. I have much sad news and perhaps you may have heard that my mother, Henrietta passed away last October, after 91 years on this planet. This prevented me from attending the Worcester Memorial services. Also Bill Solliday's mother passed away in December. She was the one that always surprised me with cherry vanilla meringue pies. There will be no more of those delightful tidbits. I hope to make Lake Placid.

47th Inf Cannon Co.
WILLIAM T. ARNOLD

Rt 12, Box 753 F
Fayetteville, N.C. 28306

We missed the last Octofoil due to a change in Box # so would like to have the last one sent to us as we like to hear from all the guys. Looking forward to the reunion in New York this summer. Merry Xmas to everyone.

47th Inf. Hq. Co. S-2
EDDIE KRAUSE
706 Riverside Dr.
Palmetto, Fl. 33561

This is the first time I've written to the Octofoil although I always read everything that comes my way. I am a Life Member of the Association. Was glad to find one name I knew, that of Jerome Shapiro from New York City. Jerome was the French interpreter and I was the German interpreter for the 47th Hq. S-2. Comrade Remaley, if Senator Dole draws \$979 per month plus all his other earnings maybe he has it coming and maybe he doesn't. However, it always works out, it's not how much you know but who you know. I and our truck driver Louis Donuis were blown from our truck after running over a German teller mine. I was sent back to the states paralyzed and was in and out of V.A. hospitals from N.Y. to California and finally had my left kidney removed in a hospital other than the V.A. They said they had no bed, but I had the VFW and DAV working for me and I am getting nothing for my injuries. I'm thankful I can walk today and when we get to God's Kingdom we won't have to worry about our old war hurts. I hope I will read some names of 9th men I know. Will be glad to write to any and all who write. Sgt. Ed Rein retired to Mt. Home, Ark. some years back and his wife wrote me this past June telling me of his death. He and I were close. Thanks for printing this and to all, remember put God first in your life, you won't be sorry.

39th Inf. Co. B.
IRV TERCHAK
2559 S. 90th St.
Wet Allis, Wi. 53227

It seems like only yesterday that I mailed my dues and the annual Memorial Fund check, how fast the years go by now! We are having terrible winter weather here in Wisconsin so it's time to be going to Puerto Rico again. May I also extend my best wishes to Hawk, Gravino, Schmeisser and to Gilbert Miller from Hinton, Va. and all the rest of my buddies. God love all of them in Co. B, 39th Inf.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column?

Co G 60th Inf
R.M.A. HIRST
CMR Box 6801
APO New York 09633

Dear Dan!

This is a note to the former members of the 39th Infantry Regiment:

While touring Normandy in May of this year, I passed into the village of le Dezert, which is on route D 8, which runs between routes D 900 and N 174. It is about 13 kilometers or some 8 miles north of Saint Lo. Noting a post office-sign, I stopped for the purchase of some postage stamps — I was also attracted by the German anti-tank gun mounted before the building.

After purchasing the stamps, I went out to photograph the gun — only then did I notice that the building was the town hall and that on its front was a black marble plaque with gold lettering which commemorated the liberation of the township on 25 July 1944 by Colonel Flint and his men — naturally all in French.

I know what Colonel Harry A. "Paddy" Flint meant to you men and to the Division, so I photographed the plaque before I took a shot of the German gun.

If any member of the 39th would like a copy of this photograph, I'd be happy to send it to anyone who drops me a note with their address.

P.S. Dan, the photos are in color so I guess you cannot reproduce them in the Octofoil — or with difficulty, I don't know. Either way, the enclosed two are for the Octofoil archives.

Editors note:
As chief cook and bottle washer I apologize to Scotty for not including this letter in the last issue of the Octofoil.

Dan Quinn

47th Inf. Can Co.
WILLIAM T. ARNOLD
Rt 12, Box 753F
Fayetteville, N.C. 28306

We missed the last Octofoil due to a change in box number. Would like to have it sent to us if possible as we like to hear from all the guys. Looking forward to the reunion in New York. Best regards. Merry Xmas to everyone.

47th Inf. Co M
WILTON TAYLOR
Stop 6
Lost Hills, Ca. 93249

Remember 41 years ago we were about a week away from our cork forest home at Port Lyautey, French Morocco. Remember the Xmas songs by bon fires and the smell of bacon and eggs (oofs) cooking in our home made stoves of Gallon Cocoa cans and the black smoke of dry cork till wee hours of the morning and our good cooks letting us have bacon rinds to cook with. May all your troubles be small ones. We love you one and all. Keep up your chin as the British say. Keep a stiff upper lip and may your New Year be happy, too.

47th Inf. G Co.
LOUIS F. RULLAN
Borinquen Towers
Bldg. I, Apt. 514
Capra Hts. Sta., P.R. 00922

It will soon be time for my name to appear in red ink, so I'll save you some red ink by sending you the next 3 years dues. It was really good to see letters in mail call from Grady Perry, Hermon Rahn, Martin Balick, Jerome Shapiro, Mike Sanchez and all, very close buddies. Missed George Bako's regular contribution. He hasn't been feeling well lately, but he assured me he will be well for the Lake Placid meeting.

JOHN CLOUSER
RT 4 BOX50A
CRYSTAL RIVER, FL 32629

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39th Inf. I & Serv Co
SAMUEL MICELI
4590 NW 41st Place
Lauderdale Lakes, Fl. 33319
Oakland Estates

After all these years, this is my first letter submitted to "Mail Call". Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$13.00, for my dues, for the next three years. Sorry I was unable to attend the Worcester Memorial Mass this year, as I did last year. Enclosed is a picture for printing in the next "Octofoil" of Father Connors and a group of men from the Association, of Mr. Lynch, the father of the late Captain Paul Lynch of the 39th, who was killed in action, as well as myself, taken during the 9th division Convention at the Hotel New Yorker in New York City in 1954.

Father Connors has done wonders for the association. He is a fine priest, and a great man. His thoughts are always for our 4,581 departed comrades and "buddies" of the 9th division.

I started with the 9th Division at Fort Bragg in North Carolina on January 22, 1941. I took part in the landings at North Africa on November 8, 1942, as well as the Sicilian Campaign. While in Sicily, Father Francis Sullivan, who was the Catholic chaplain of the 39th, learned that my parents were living in Sicily, obtained permission for me to be with my parents for several days, once the Sicilian campaign was over. This permission was granted by the regimental Commander and Paddy Flint granted me a three day pass to spend with my mother and father. This was a great experience.

You may know that the 39th had another chaplain, Father Robert J. Curtis, who was not afraid to expose himself to danger, in celebrating Holy Mass before the men, in the battlefield. I would like to take this opportunity to wish a Happy and Holy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all.

60th Inf. Co. I, 3rd Bn.
JAMES SCOTTA
2882 W. Vina Del Mar
St. Petersburg Bch., Fl. 33706

Before the red ink appears on my Octofoil, I am enclosing dues for the next 3 years and the extra to the Memorial Fund. The sunny state of Florida has a great group of 9th men and women in its chapter and is growing as more "snow birds" fly south! Had a great time at our October meeting and looking forward to the next one, of course, as our President, Bob Pappas has informed you of a great time and good comradeship of all. So until we meet again in Lake Placid, I hope, God Bless you and all the members. Have a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

REUNION

Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23 1984
Remember the dates

60th Inf. M Co
Cole Gronseth
PO Box 1904
Dunnellon, Fl. 32630

Congratulations upon the recognition you both earned and shared. Business matters prevented my attendance at Detroit so I was unable to see you and say thank you personally. It has been quite a year. I retired, made 4 trips from Michigan to Florida to arrange and ready our new home. Also spent a month traveling to the west coast to see 2 of our sons. If all this was not enough it became necessary to undergo emergency surgery and came close to bagging the whole show, but am combat ready again! Eileen and I live in the Village of Rainbow Springs in Dunnellon, Fl. The golf course is just a wedge shot away. As soon as I get unpacked, I hope to visit with some of the growing number of 9th men. Bob Singleton and H.F. Stensel have already called and I've been in touch with Carl Brady. I managed to catch the M Co meeting in June in Alabama. At that time I made the point that it was important to renew and keep the friendships of WW 2 as we are all on a countdown of life. Little did I know in June that I'd be the first in that group that might have been counted out! It now makes one even more aware of how important it is to make meetings. Are you reading this Orville Stangl and Bob Daran?

39th Inf. D & M Co
H.F. UTTER
606 Sumsburg Dr.
Port Richey, Fl. 33568

Enclosed find check for 3 years dues and as of Jan. 1984 we are moving south, to Florida!

60th Inf. D Co.
JOHN E. THORNTON
Box 3782
Chicago, Ill. 62454

Here it is that time of the year again, where does the time go? Do hope you and yours are in good health. I am doing fairly good for an ole goat in his middle 70's! Kind of wearing out here and there, but I guess we all are. I may have to get a hearing aid for my left ear sometime soon, the motors inside need to be rewound! Glad that the Michigan reunion turned out real good for everyone. Sure hope the coming year will bring WORLD PEACE everywhere. Nothing much more to say at this time, so keep real well and take good care of yourself. Wishing you and the rest of the 9th members a nice Holiday Season. Let's all count our Blessings. Enclosed is a check for dues and some for the Scholarship-Memorial Fund.

26th FA, Hq Btry
W. DONALD ROLAR
105 Oak Lane
Shippensburg, Pa. 17257

Enclosed is my check for 3 years dues. I had all intentions of going to the Memorial services in Worcester, but bad weather and illness prevented me from attending. I am planning for the reunion in Lake Placid in June. Best Regards.

(Continued on page 6)

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE Feb. 20th.